

Docket No: 243352US2-SRD DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
Masahiro OSHIKIRI et al. : EXAMINER: UNASSIGNED  
SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION :  
FILED: HERewith : GROUP ART UNIT: UNASSIGNED  
FOR: BACKGROUND NOISE/SPEECH CLASSIFICATION METHOD,  
VOICED/UNVOICED CLASSIFICATION METHOD AND BACKGROUND  
NOISE DECODING METHOD, AND SPEECH ENCODING METHOD AND  
APPARATUS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits please amend the above-identified divisional  
application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.